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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Jared Timko et al.)	Examiner:	John Bastianelli
Serial No.:	10/526,738)	Art Unit:	3751
Filed:	March 4, 2005)	Attorney Do	cket No.: 22188/06985
For:	BALL VALVE PACKING)	Confirmation No.: 7877	

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the Communication indicating the

	degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.
	In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:
	Complete English translations of foreign language documents are being submitted herewith, and therefore no concise explanation for such documents is required.
CER]	TIFICATION AND FEE PAYMENT INFORMATION
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to Deposit Account No. 030172 .
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from a Communication from a foreign patent office and Applicant submits the following Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this Communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to Deposit Account No. 030172 .
	Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
	No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement under

	the ma Notice (which	R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and iling date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application ever is earlier). Accordingly, Applicant submits the fee required under 37 C.F.R. (p). The fee is being paid in the following manner:				
		A check is attached in the an	nount of	f \$	as required under 37 §	§ 1.17(p).
		The patent office is hereby a any related fee to Deposit A		_		and
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing of Office Action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecuti application, but on or before the payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, Applic submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) along with the fee r under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).				ition in the		
		Each item of information concited in a Communication from application not more than the	om a fo	reign patent	office in a counterpart	foreign
		No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more that three months prior to the filing of this statement.				
		AND, the fee is b	eing pa	id in the fol	lowing manner:	
		A check is attached in the an	nount of	f \$	as required under 37 §	§ 1.17(p).
The patent office is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$ any related fee to Deposit Account No. 030172 .					and	
	\boxtimes	Please charge any fee deficie No. 03-0172, order number 2		-	overpayments to Depo	sit Account
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Date: _	512	-5/07	Ву:		Smith, Reg. No. 45,11 R No. 24024	5 .

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Sheet 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/526,738		
Filing Date	March 4, 2005		
First Named Inventor	Jared Timko et al.		
Art Unit	3751		
Examiner Name	John Bastianelli		
Attorney Docket Number	22188/06985		

			U. S. PATENT	T DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Cite No.1		Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear			
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Examiner	Date		
Signature	Consid	dered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.